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An Evening Echo.

Weigh not so much what men assert, as what they prove; remembering always that truth is simple and naked, and needs not invention to appear her comeliness.—SIR SIDNEY.

Other members of the Democratic state machine are crying out against the Chilton tongue and wondering if there is any way to stop it.

The Telegram wonders whether Chilton means money when he says money. So far as artillery is concerned he furnishes a plenty against himself in such nightmares as he had, when he delivered that Pineville speech.

"Chilton made a great political mistake at Pineville in reviving the Charleston incident," is what several members of the Democratic state machine say, but almost everyone else repeats the saying that "murder will out."

There has been another nightmare down at Charleston. A statement by Governor Glasscock that Senator Chilton's duty to probe him would be accepted elicited a restless reference to ammunition and artillery that means nothing and is not even a good bluff.

Even an oily tongue can not run on a pivot at Pineville without getting into trouble as shown by Chilton's latest effort. Naturally, there would be a good deal of lubrication there and maybe that is the reason a certain tongue ran too much for the good of its owner.

Senator Chilton declares he feels complimented over the declaration that his seat in the Senate is questioned. Perhaps, he felt that way about it, when he wrote a letter to the Telegram several months ago expressing his distress that it should be stated that the belief prevails in this state that he acquired his seat by methods similar to those charged against Lorimer.

Senator Chilton did not press his courtship investigation last winter, when Senators Bland and Fisher and Delegates Robinson, Hubbard and others, besides many citizens of the state by petition, clamored for it and made the legislative halls resound with charges of bribery and corruption. Perhaps, Chilton pays court only when it suits him and it is evident for reasons that all believe they know that he did not desire to do any courting at that time.

Senator Chilton is proclaimed by his mouthpiece as courting a fair investigation. The United States Senate will doubtless gratify his courting. It is hoped that he will not discover a rule of his own making that would cause him to plot against such an investigation as he acknowledged in a letter to the Telegram he did, when the appointment of Guy Goff, son of Judge Nathan Goff, to a Wisconsin district attorneyship was in the Senate.

It is time to hear from Jake Fisher as to that Schock statement since Chilton has tried to discredit it. Jake is said to have the original copy, which was dictated in the presence of several prominent Democrats, some of whom have been at the head of the party machinery. If Jake has been careless enough to lose the original, Senator Chilton can get a peep at a true copy by calling on a venerable Democrat of Clarksburg. It might shock Chilton, however, to behold it so soon

after his Pineville speech.

Expositions Not Related.

It may be thought by some that the two Panama expositions are in some way related; that one is in a sense a branch of the other. This is not the case. While the management of each is working in co-operation and friendship with the other, each is distinct and separate. They both will celebrate the opening of the Panama canal, but they will do it in different ways, and there will be a friendly rivalry to see which one will prove of the greatest interest to the public.

The managers of the San Diego exposition believe that they will produce an aggregation of attractions which will be absolutely unique. The group of exposition buildings will, of themselves, be an attraction which it would be worth crossing the continent to see. They will embody all the best and most artistic in the old, but still new style of architecture which the old Mission fathers introduced when they undertook to evangelize the new land of California. Known as the Spanish Renaissance, this style will present the best ideas by the leading architects in the world who specialize in this style.

The Corporation Soul.

A tramp who had been put off a Rock Island train fell into a vat of boiling water while seeking a place to sleep. The whole train schedule was disarranged in order that a special train which rushed the tramp to a hospital, should have the right of way. The accident and its consequences prompted the Toledo Blade to say that the soullessness of the soulless corporation has its frontier. It may be without heart in the competition for business, without conscience in gaining its earnings out of passengers and shippers. But when the appeal of human suffering is made to it, it can forget that its policy is to keep labor at the lowest wage, to pay for personal hurt only if it must, to gouge and sometimes, to cheat.

Where spontaneous impulses are generous there is no real danger that any policy of industry, developed out of commercial conditions, will ever become fixed, however profitable its meanness and cruelty may prove to be.

The Food Question.

Herr Bebel, a German Socialist leader, addressed the Social Democratic Congress at Jena, remarked that the time was coming when the question of the price of the necessities of life would be the cardinal one to an enormous majority of the Germans.

It needs no prophet to see what Herr Bebel predicts, says the Newark N. J. Star. The whole world of humanity travels on its stomach. Food is the first essential of life. More or less food is a question that controls the destinies of mankind. The food question brought on the great French Revolution, and it is an ever-present question in all countries. We have it in the United States in an active form just now, but it can not become as acute as in Europe, because we are not dependent upon other nations for our food supplies. Germany has to import vast quantities. If the foreign supply should fall or the German harvests be destroyed, if the cost of war should necessitate higher taxes on the necessities of life, the result would be a supreme crisis.

A population in Europe would not sit down in stoical calm and die of starvation like the Hindoo. Government may regulate food prices when there is plenty and make them reasonable. It can not regulate famine prices, and it would be swept away by a people hungering for food and unable to get food.

Spread of Drug Habit.

While Great Britain and China are getting together on a treaty for the stamping out of the opium traffic in China Uncle Sam would do well to give serious attention to the danger that threatens him. The United States consumes approximately 500,000 pounds of opium each year. A conservative estimate fixes 100,000 pounds as the limit on all that is needed in this country for medicinal purposes. We are using nearly 200,000 ounces of cocaine each year, although it is claimed that 20,000 is all for which we have any legitimate use.

The significant features is that the consumption of habit-forming

drugs is increasing more rapidly than is population, says the St. Paul Dispatch. The added demand is not to supply the requirements of more population, but to satisfy the cravings of an increased number of victims of the death-dealing drugs. We might very well follow the example set by Great Britain and China. They have agreed to limit the production of opium in China and its importation from India. The change is to be brought about gradually, a reduction of ten per cent being made for each year until the opium evil is eliminated.

It probably is not desirable nor practicable for the United States to attempt to stop importation of habit-forming drugs. Both opium and cocaine, as well as other less dangerous drugs, have legitimate use. But the supply should be limited to the amount required for such uses, if it is feasible to do so.

Democrats Demoralized.

It is true as the Grafton Sentinel says that the Goff idea has demoralized Democracy on the defensive. Every mention of the name of the grand jurist of Harrison county stirs up a hubbub in the ranks of the Democracy, and they view with alarm the clarion call of the West Virginia Republicans to the able leader of the '80's to take up the command and lead a united party to a magnificent victory next year. Judge Goff may not have the fire and force of former days; he may not have the hale and hearty health to withstand the fury of the coming conflict; he may lack the strength and stamina, but he does not lack the loyalty of the Republicans of West Virginia, nor even that of an army of Democrats, knowing of the clean life he has led, of his pure public career and of his singular ability, who would rally to his standard.

Last evening—as late as that—two local leaders of the Democracy in Taylor county expressed their fear of Goff. They were of the belief that Goff as the leader of the Republican party in the state next year would mean their Waterloo. And the fear of these two Taylor Democrats is the fear of the Democracy the length and breadth of West Virginia. One or two may be said to reflect the prevailing sentiment of all. And in answering the question which has of late been frequently propounded, "Goff or Watson, which?" what would the Republicans do; what would the honest Democrats do?

Morgantown's Downfall.

Alack and alas! From its much heralded and self-praised pinnacle of superior culture, the fair city of Morgantown, whom its residents, particularly the state university professors, delight to call "The Athens of West Virginia," has fallen into a state of barbaric savagery characteristic of conditions that prevailed in the medieval period. News dispatches have just been telling the world, to the shame and disgrace of Monongalia's capital, that a bridegroom, on arriving home there with his bride from their honeymoon trip, was handcuffed by a crowd of his idiotic friends and carried to their home in South Park in an automobile. This form of savage cruelty was recorded as "the most rousing reception ever accorded to a young married couple in this city," which is the saving grace to its hitherto reputed refinement.

There is not much to be said about these fools who manacled the bridegroom save to classify them with the thugs and hoodlums of the larger cities who now and then engage in riots requiring the service of the police, and to regret that they escaped subsequent punishment at the hands of the victim. Such imbeciles ought to be punished under authority of a statute with as drastic a penalty for the playing of wedding pranks as the present Johnson anti-weapon law imposes for the carrying of a pistol. Or, it might not be going a bit too far to say that such assaults ought to be made felonies with the provision that lunacy proceedings should first be instituted to determine whether the violators should properly be sent to a state insane asylum.

But, the odium that now attaches to the much-mooted "cultcha" of Morgantown by reason of its downfall is a matter of more profound regret and suggests the immediate necessity of a sociological investigation.

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